

MEETING OF THE CITY OF RUSHVILLE, INDIANA COMMON COUNCIL

MARCH 7, 2017

6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The Common Council of the City of Rushville met on the above date and time at 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Pavey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: The Pledge to the Flag was recited by those present.

PRAYER: Councilman Bridges led those present in prayer.

ROLL CALL: Bob Bridges, Brian Conner, Craig Smith, and Gary Cameron answered roll call. Antonia Walker, Student Advisor, was not present. Brad Berkemeier arrived after the roll was called. Also present was City Attorney, Tracy Newhouse and Kate Thurston, *Rushville Republican*.

MINUTES: Cameron moved to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2017 meeting as presented. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. We presented books "Be the Best You Can Be" to the 4th grade students at Rushville Elementary and St. Mary's.
2. We went to the KDC open house in Spiceland and viewed their apartments.
3. We will meet with CGS on the 10th.
4. The St. Patrick's celebration is on the 11th. The Governor will be here.
5. The literacy book store will have an open house on the 11th.
6. Luke Messer will be in town on the 13th.
7. The wage study came back at 61, clearing the hurdle.
8. I have asked Russell Brown to oversee the housing issue to make sure we meet deadlines. We will do a comprehensive plan. We are not under the June 1st deadline.
9. They have asked for a summer study group for the HOTIF. It will be heard next year.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT:

Clerk-Treasurer Copley said that due to Debbie being on vacation last week the docket will be ready for approval on Friday.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Stellar Designation** – Pavey said they continue to move forward. A meeting is

scheduled for tomorrow with the State.

- **Amphitheater/Park Board** – Everything is on track. There will be a Board meeting Thursday.
- **Marketing** – No report.
- **APC/BZA** – No report.
- **City Center** – No report.
- **Cherry Street** – We have scored the potential design firms and are working with Indot.
- **Brownfield Grant** – No report.
- **ECDC** – No report.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Police – Chief Tucker handed out a statistics report.

Tucker said on March 18 at 2:00 at the high school gym there will be a “Guns vs. Hoses” basketball game sponsored by the United Fund.

He said he is waiting on Clifton’s paperwork to come through.

Tucker said as he was about to come into this meeting he received a compliment on Officer Hoeing.

Tucker also reported that the 1st new car should be ready for delivery soon.

Fire – Chief Jenkins informed Council that the Board of Works voted to recommend to Council to purchase the playground equipment for the toddler zone. Councilmen Cameron and Bridges said they didn’t think the purchase fit the ordinance. Smith said he likes the idea, but we need to stay on track with the purpose that the ordinance was created. Mayor Pavey said he thought there was a better line item that could be used.

CITIZEN CONCERNS/COMMENTS: None.

PLANNING & ZONING:

1. **16-CO-030 RMH MRI Update** – The representative from RMH said they should have a plan by the next Council meeting. He will deliver a plan to Carmen as soon as possible. Bridges made a motion to table. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. **17-Z-01 Casey’s Rezone 802 S State Rd 3** – This has been continued until April.

3. **17-Z-02 City of Rushville Rezone 1544 N Spencer** – A favorable recommendation was given by the APC with approval of a subdivision plat. The purpose is to rezone the 4 acres for a multi-family complex. Cameron moved to approve Ordinance 2017-7 contingent on passing of the subdivision. Bridges seconded the motion. Motion carried.
4. **17-Z03 City of Rushville Rezone Smiley Ave** – The APC gave a favorable recommendation to rezone to M2 with no contingencies. Bridges moved to approve Ordinance 2017-8. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **½ Day off a Month** – A meeting is scheduled for Friday.
2. **Large Equipment Purchase – Garbage Truck, Chipper** – Mayor Pavey said he has met with Miller and Land to determine the best avenue from 3 options. Pavey said the purchase of a chipper is urgent. However, the trash truck is running, but they have been told that they will not give any value for the truck. Charles Parsley informed Miller that there is a grant that could be applied for to purchase the truck. Pavey said he thought it would be wise to approve the purchase of a chipper and try to get on the grant program for the truck. Cameron made a motion to proceed with either option 2 or 3 for the purchase of a chipper, whichever the Mayor determines to be the best option. Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Ordinance 2017-6 Adopting Building Demolition Guidelines** – Smith moved to approve Ordinance 2017-6. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
2. **Trash Fee Revisions** – Mayor Pavey said he would turn this over to Councilman Smith. Smith said that Miller and Land informed him that some fees needed to be revised. Cameron moved to table for the next meeting. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. **ServLine – Les Day** – Les Day said the Utility Board wished to revisit the ServLine program. He said there are 3 different programs they would like to implement. The first would be the water loss protection program. All customers would automatically be enrolled in the program for \$1.00 per month with the option that they may opt out if they wish. This program would prevent the customer from paying a large bill if they had a leak. However, if the customer decided to opt out of the program they would not be refunded if they had a leak and were not on the program.

The water line protection program would cost \$5.00 per month and would cover leaks from the meter to the residence. To take part in this program the customer would have to opt in. They would not automatically be put on the program. It would cover up to

\$10,000.00.

The third program is the sewer line protection program. The cost is \$7.00 per month up to \$10,000.00. The program is also an opt in only program. The customer would not automatically be placed on the program. The Utility Board has given their approval to move forward with the program. Day said the next step is to send out flyers to the customers. The charges would be itemized on the utility bill. The customer would receive a policy from ServLine for the programs. Smith made a motion to move forward with the ServLine programs for city residential customers. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. **Design Build Concept – City Center** – Mayor Pavey said he met with a design build firm for consideration for the City Center project. He said we would need to send out for RFPs. He said this would provide us with more control. Bridges made a motion to move forward with RFPs. Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried.
5. **Potential Disposal of Publically Owned Property (Fire Farm)** – Mayor Pavey said he would like to have conversation regarding the potential disposal of this property. He said we would need to have a public hearing to begin the process. Conner said he would like to slow down the process. Smith said we should go ahead and advertise for cash rent. Councilman Smith said he would hate to see the land sold, but this was part of the formula for the stellar funding. Mayor Pavey said it is his opinion that we will not grow by owning farm land. This property is north of the railroad tracks. Councilman Conner said it is sad that this was willed to the fire department in good faith and now we are considering selling it. Pavey said the use is for a bigger vision. The appraised value of farm land is going down. Smith said we have to use the resources we have. Smith said we need to do our due diligence up front. It was the consensus of Council to give notice of a public hearing for the next meeting.

Claims & Monthly Bank Reconciliation: Bridges moved to approve the claims and the January bank reconciliation as presented. Conner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ITEMS NOT KNOWN IN ADVANCE: Councilman Smith said he received a phone call regarding the demographic survey for grant funding. He said he would not answer the survey questions. Pavey said this information was needed for grants for OCRA. Smith said this was misleading because it led people to believe that this would lower their water bills.

Councilman Cameron said if any of the Council was in favor of HOTIF to get with him to sign a letter.

ADJOURN: There was no further business to come before Council; Berkemeier made a motion to adjourn. Conner seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.